

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A shifting device for transmitting shift commands to a motor vehicle transmission, the shifting device comprising:

a ~~housing/frame~~ housing support structure;

a selector lever for transmitting shift commands to the motor vehicle transmission;

5 a hand knob forming a gripping surface for engagement by a hand of a driver of the motor vehicle;

a switch; and

an adapter mounted ~~[[at]]~~ on said selector lever, said adapter having said switch integrated therewith, said adapter defining a connection between said selector lever and said  
10 hand knob, the shifting device being provided for installation in a motor vehicle, wherein a shifting gate is pushed over said selector lever.

2. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said switch integrated in said adapter includes means for transmitting electrical and/or optical signals.

3. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adapter has a switch interface for a connection cable.

\_\_\_\_4. (Currently Amended) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, further

comprising a line for transmitting electrical and/or optical signals wherein said adapter has an exterior surface defining at least one said recess, said line being disposed in said recess in which said line is disposed.

5. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adapter has a switch display part.

6. (Currently Amended) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a switch display part.

7. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adapter has at least one guide element for positioning said hand knob.

8. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adapter has a boring, into which said selector lever can be at least partially inserted.

9. (Currently Amended) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adapter is fastened to ~~has a screwable connection for fastening at~~ said selector lever via a screw connection.

10. (Currently Amended) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said

adapter ~~has a clippable connection for fastening at~~ is fastened to said selector lever via a clip connection.

11. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adapter has a plastic molding, which is injection-molded on the selector lever via an injection molding process.

12. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adapter has an actuator button part connected to said switch.

13. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 12, wherein said hand knob has an opening for access to said actuator button part.

14. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 13, wherein said actuator button part also comprises a switch display part.

15. (Currently Amended) A shifting device for transmitting shift commands to a motor vehicle transmission, the shifting device comprising:

a support structure;

a selector lever connected to said support structure, said selector lever for transmitting shift commands to the motor vehicle transmission;

a connection cable;

an adapter mounted ~~[[at]]~~ to said selector lever, said adapter having an integrated switch, said integrated switch including a switch interface for said connection cable and a means for transmitting electrical and/or optical signals, said adapter having an adapter outer surface, said adapter outer surface defining a recess, said connection cable being located within said recess;

a hand knob forming a gripping surface for engagement by a hand of a driver of the motor vehicle driver, ~~[[;]]~~ said adapter defining a connection between said selector lever and said hand knob, the shifting device being provided for installation in a motor vehicle, wherein the diameter of the selector lever and the adapter is smaller than a shift gap defined by side edges of a shift gate whereby the shift gate is passed over said selector lever and said adapter.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A shifting device in accordance with claim ~~[[16]]~~ 15, wherein said connection cable has a line, said line ~~[[for]]~~ transmitting said electrical and/or optical signals from said transmitting means to said support structure ~~wherein said adapter has at least one recess in which said line is disposed.~~

18. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance claim 15, wherein said adapter has at least one guide element for positioning said hand knob.

19. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 15, wherein said adapter has a part with at least one of an actuator button part and a switch display part connected to said switch.

20. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 19, wherein said hand knob has an opening for access to said at least one of an actuator button part and a switch display part connected to said switch.

21. (New) A shifting device for transmitting shift commands to a motor vehicle transmission, the shifting device comprising:

a support structure;

a selector lever connected to said support structure, said selector lever for transmitting  
5 shift commands to the motor vehicle transmission;

a connection cable having one or more lines;

an adapter mounted to said selector lever, said adapter having an integrated switch, said  
integrated switch including a switch interface, said adapter having an adapter outer surface,  
said adapter outer surface defining a recess, said one or more lines being located within said  
10 recess, said one or more lines being connected to said switch interface;

a hand knob forming a gripping surface for engagement by a hand of a driver of the  
motor vehicle driver, said adapter defining a connection between said selector lever and said  
hand knob, the shifting device being provided for installation in a motor vehicle, wherein the

15 diameter of the selector lever and the adapter is smaller than a shift gap defined by side edges  
of a shift gate whereby the shift gate is passed over said selector lever and said adapter, said  
hand knob being arranged on said adapter.